



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Farina et al Docket: MN-9091A

Filed: August 8, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1744

Serial No.: 09/924,383 Examiner: Beisner

Title: Reagent Container and Canister For Use
In An Automated Microbiological Analyzer

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action dated January 15, 2004, in which claims 1-12 and 16-18 were finally rejected. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment after Final as it is believed to put the case in condition for allowance. In the alternative, it is believed to put the case in better form for appeal. Reconsideration of the now claimed invention is respectfully requested and the following submitted in support thereof.

Please amend the application as follows: